

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office
FLOOR DEBATE

April 4, 2001

LB 75, 563

ourselves into the marketplace and we're telling retailers what they can't do, what they can't do. That's different than suppl...making it easier to get ethanol and to get the stuff produced. But now we're going to tell retailers what they can and can't do, which means we're telling buyers what their choices will be as well. And there are literally thousands of tanks, thousands of retailers, and thousands of consumers. It's the kind of place that Adam Smith would say, this is a market.

SENATOR CUDABACK: One minute.

SENATOR LANDIS: This is a functioning, realistic, competition-driven market, in which case it's best to let the market work. Now I, as somebody who this body would regard as a liberal, am surprised to be standing up and reminding what is essentially a conservative body, a thorough-going free enterprise Republican, generally, that the market is a value, a competitive value when you can make it work. Every now and then we make really stupid decisions. We deregulated telephones but, in fact, they were a monopoly. That was a stupid, craven political act on our part and it was a way...it was a big mistake. Here, on the other hand, we have thousands of buyers and thousands of retailers, and we do not need to limit their freedom in the marketplace. Let the market...

SENATOR CUDABACK: Time.

SENATOR LANDIS: ...govern and do something for rural Nebraska in another place, namely, I think LB 563.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Landis. Senator Vrtiska, followed by Senators Chambers, Bruning, Baker, Connealy, and Schrock. Senator Vrtiska.

SENATOR VRTISKA: Thank you, Senator Cudaback. I...I am not going to oppose Senator Chambers' bill. I am just not going to vote for it. I wanted to talk with Senator Chambers but he is pretty tied up right now.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Senator Chambers.